

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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TAGS: ENRG, EGEN, CIEC, FR

SUBJECT: CIEC: MOVING FORWARD ON PROCEDURAL ISSUES

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM UNDER SECRETARY CHARLES W. ROBINSON

1. AS YOU KNOW, THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (CIEC) IS SCHEDULED AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN PARIS ON DECEMBER 16-17. BASED ON THE DECISION REACHED AT PREPCON II IN PARIS ON OCTOBER 13-16, THE THREE INDUSTRIALIZED NATION REPRESENTATIVES--JAPAN, EC AND THE U.S., ARE TO SELECT FIVE ADDITIONAL INDUSTRIALIZED NATION PARTICIPANTS. THIS WILL INCREASE THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATION REPRESENTATION TO EIGHT OUT OF A TOTAL OF TWENTY-SEVEN PARTICIPANTS IN THE DECEMBER CIEC MEETING.

2. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE PROCEED WITH DETAILED PLANNING FOR THIS IMPORTANT MEETING WHICH REQUIRES SEVERAL KEY DECISIONS WHICH CANNOT BE MADE UNTIL AFTER RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE RAISED BY THE UK DEMAND FOR A SEPARATE SEAT AT THE DECEMBER CIEC MINISTERIAL AND IN THE COMMISSION ACTIVITIES TO FOLLOW. WE HAVE MAINTAINED THE POSITION
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THAT(A) THIS IS STRICTLY AN EC PROBLEM, (B) IT WOULD BE

INAPPROPRIATE FOR US TO GET INVOLVED, AND (C) WE WILL BE ABLE TO GO ALONG WITH ANY SOLUTION WHICH CAN BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE UK AND THE EC.

3. ALTHOUGH WE WILL REMAIN UNINVOLVED IN THE UK SEPARATE SEAT ISSUE, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL PARTIES UNDERSTAND THAT CONTINUING DELAY IN RESOLVING THIS QUESTION MAY FORCE DEFERMENT OF THE DECEMBER CIEC MINISTERIAL INTO 1976 WHICH COULD HAVE A SERIOUS IMPACT ON NORTH-SOUTH RELATIONS. TO MINIMIZE THIS POSSIBILITY WE ARE SUGGESTING THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS ATTENDING THE ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN PARIS NOVEMBER 15-17 BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER THE KEY PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED BEFORE WE CAN PROCEED WITH DEFINITIVE PLANS FOR THE CIEC MINISTERIAL. HOWEVER, IN SUGGESTING THIS WE WANT TO AVOID ANY POSSIBLE MISUNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF THE UK AS THIS MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS U.S. INTERVENTION IN THE UK-EC PROBLEM.

4. IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH FROMENT-MEURICE TODAY I EXPLAINED OUR CONCERN OVER THE THREATENED DELAY IN THE CIEC MINISTERIAL, THE PLANNING FOR WHICH COULD NOT PROCEED UNTIL KEY DECISIONS WERE REACHED BETWEEN THE EC, JAPAN, AND THE U.S. ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE SUGGESTED THAT ARRANGEMENTS BE MADE FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTERS TO MEET SOMETIME DURING THE SUMMIT MEETING NOVEMBER 15-17. I POINTED OUT THAT WE MUST FIRST DECIDE ON THE CO-CHAIRMANSHIP FROM THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATION SIDE FOR WHICH WE WERE PROPOSING SECRETARY KISSINGER. IN ADDITION WE HAD QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ADDITIONAL FIVE INDUSTRIALIZED NATION PARTICIPANTS, MEMBERSHIP IN THE FOUR COMMISSIONS TO FOLLOW THE MINISTERIAL AND THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATION CO-CHAIRMEN FOR EACH OF THESE COMMISSIONS. THERE ARE ALSO QUESTIONS TO BE RESOLVED ON THE LOCATION OF THE COMMISSION ACTIVITIES ON WHICH THERE IS NOW GENERAL SUPPORT FOR PARIS AND ON THE SHARING OF EXPENSES.

5. FROMENT-MEURICE EXPLAINED THAT THE QUESTION OF THE SEPARATE SEAT FOR THE UK HAD NOT YET BEEN SETTLED
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BUT WOULD PROBABLY BE DISCUSSED AT THE EC MEETING SCHEDULED FOR BRUSSELS ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5-6. ALTHOUGH I STRESSED OUR CONCERN OVER THE DELAY IN THE RESOLUTION OF THIS ISSUE, I MADE IT CLEAR THAT WE CONSIDERED THIS AN EC MATTER IN WHICH THE U.S. DID NOT INTEND TO INTERVENE.

6. FROMENT-MEURICE PROMISED TO TELEPHONE ME AFTER THE

BRUSSELS MEETING HAS BEEN COMPLETED ON THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 6. WE WILL THEN DECIDE ON THE NEXT STEP IN
ARRANGING FOR THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN PARIS
DURING THE SUMMIT NOVEMBER 15-17. WE WILL KEEP YOU
ADVISED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. KISSINGER

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